

**Work Session  
March 5, 2003**

The Montgomery County Board of Commissioners met in a work session on Wednesday, March 5, 2003 at 4:00 p.m. in the Montgomery County Commissioners' Conference Room. A full board was present. *Chairman Maness called the meeting to order and the following was heard:*

**Discussion of Equipment Upgrade for the Register of Deeds**

Montgomery County Register of Deeds was present along with a representative from Parker-Lowe & Associates, Jay Parker.

***The following is what the contract includes:***

Upgrade Server to current and maintain at current updated level as long as system is under Annual Support Agreement.

Upgrade Optical storage to DVD/RAM and DVD/R storage with a DVD server, providing guaranteed storage for all documents scanned for as long as system is under annual support agreement. Should the Montgomery County Register of Deeds office have a high speed Internet connection, these scanned images can be sent over the Internet to our office for conversion to microfilm for Archival purposes. The cost of microfilm and processing is included under your revised Support agreement.

Upgrade ALL PC computer workstations to current Windows 2000 workstations. Provide two additional ViewX computer workstations with 17" LFT screens for the Vault. Provide (3) individual laser printers for ViewX workstations.

Provide one Hewlett Packard LaserJet 5si laser printer, with Duplexer and Large Tray to replace existing, Simplex Index printer. This will save paper cost to the county and will further consolidate Indexes to save space in the Vault.

Parker-Lowe & Associates agrees to Develop and Host a website for the Montgomery County Register of Deeds. This website will allow for the viewing of Online Indexes and Documents on a Redundant Server at our office. This protects the Register and the County against any contamination of the data and images on their server.

Parker-Lowe & Associates will scan all microfilm for Montgomery County up to when scanning was started with your present system and load these images on the system for viewing. These rolls of microfilm may be ordered, twenty rolls at a time, from Archives in Raleigh and sent to our offices at no charge to the County. Parker-Lowe & Associates will assist in the ordering process.

Annual Support will be \$15,432.00. The Montgomery County Register of Deeds office is presently paying \$3,600.00 for Support. A payment of \$11,832.00 is required at time of Offer acceptance.

Under your revised Annual Support agreement, all supplies are to be provided free of charge. This includes such items as labels, ribbons, receipt paper and toner. Items excluded are paper and binders.

The leases with Ervin Leasing and Baystone Financial will be replaced and paid off with a new lease with B. B. and T. at current low interest rates saving Montgomery County thousands of dollars in interest costs. The B. B. and T. lease payment for the Montgomery County Register of Deeds will be \$8,904.00 per year for five years, with the first annual payment due in March 2004. This is the same amount of money that Montgomery County is presently paying for the combined Ervin and Baystone leases.

#### OPTION 2:

We will also provide a map scanner that will scan large maps, plats, and oversized pages to digital and/or print allowing, maps, aerial photographs, large index pages to be scanned, copied, digitized, stored, and printed in their original size or to scale.

The Map printer included with this special MapX PC workstation will print in black and white on virtually any map material. It Prints up to 24" wide. If there is a need to print maps that are greater than 24" in width, the MapX software allows for the rotation of the map images to accomplish wider map prints. There will be the appropriate DVD storage with the MapX workstation for these maps. Map paper is included. We will also include a 21" touch screen monitor for CopyX.

The B. B. and T. annual lease payment will be \$11,715.97 per year for five years, with the first lease payment due in March 2004. The interest rate would be 3.83%.

Commissioner Bostic asked if all transactions would be listed on the Internet. Mr. Parker said all real estate. He said this would be very helpful to attorneys and paralegals. Commissioner Bostic said is there a danger in placing this information on the Internet? The representative commented that all of this information is public record. Mr. Bostic said he realizes that, but this really makes it public. Mr. Parker said it is really efficient to have this information on the website. He stated most counties want this on line as soon as possible. He continued saying that if someone wanted to look up their property; they could see an aerial photo as well as the deed.

Chairman Maness said if you want to print it out you can. Mr. Maness asked what search engine would you use to get to this information. Mr. Parker said you would search within the website. The representative explained that other vendors have you handcuffed to their software. He said his company has a specific architecture.

Chairman Maness commented that this is a good thing.

Commissioner Bostic said how many people want their business on the Internet? He said I do not think it is a good thing.

Mr. Parker explained the documents can be scanned and the information left in the Register of Deeds office and not put on the Internet. He said that is only part of the proposal.

Commissioner Knight said he sees no problem with this. He said the attorneys could save. Mr. Knight said I see this as a thing for the future. He continued by saying that it would be great to be able to look this up on the computer and not have to drive to the Register of Deeds and get a copy.

Mr. Parker said vital records will never be put on the Internet, only real estate. Chairman Maness asked Mrs. Norris if the company is a good one? Mrs. Norris said yes and they have good service technicians as well.

Commissioner Knight asked Mrs. Norris if this would save on personnel? Mrs. Norris said no, because there is still the paperwork we have to process and we still have to have a hard copy.

Commissioner Corbett asked if this would save on man-hours? Mrs. Norris said no.

The board agreed to carry this forward to the regular session.

### **EDC/Committee of 100**

Mrs. Judy Stevens appeared before the board with an overview of the Montgomery County Economic Corporation and the Committee of 100. Mrs. Stevens presented information such as the business and industry guide and a marketing book for Montgomery County. She listed the names of all of the board members who serve on these boards.

Mrs. Stevens said there is a new program director for EDC. Her name is Terri Parsons.

She said the county has several shell buildings and other buildings (i.e. Dal-Tile, Springs, ABD) they are trying to market.

Mrs. Stevens also encouraged the board to look at the county's website [www.montgomery-county.com](http://www.montgomery-county.com).

Mrs. Stevens also explained what the CEDS (Community Economic Development Strategy) meetings did for the county and encouraged the commissioners to meet with these boards and go over the plan for Montgomery County that came from the CEDS meetings. She said Commissioner Bostic, County Manager Lee Matthews, MCC President Mark Kirk and herself were part of this process. She said the plan targeted strengths and weaknesses of the county. The county's three weakness are education, transportation, and infrastructure.

Mrs. Stevens thanked the board for their support.

Commissioner Knight said he had three concerns.

1. Where does Mt. Gilead stand? How do they fit in?
2. Doesn't Parks and Recreation play a part in development?
3. Education is first on the list. It seems we mention it and jump over the issue.

Mrs. Stevens said Mt. Gilead is always invited to the meetings. She mentioned that Mt. Gilead was just deeded the land across from Jordan Lumber. She said she keeps them informed.

Mrs. Stevens said that the towns are more involved in the planning for parks and recreation.

Mrs. Stevens explained that all of this is why she is requesting a joint meeting. Chairman Maness said education is mentioned at every meeting he attends.

Mrs. Stevens said that this year's Leadership Montgomery Class wants to start a mentoring program.

### **Update on Water/Sewer Projects**

*Tim Carpenter presented the following report:*

TO: Montgomery County Board of Commissioners

FROM: Tim Carpenter, Hobbs, Upchurch & Associates, P.A.

DATE: March 5, 2003

RE: Status Report for the following projects: Miscellaneous Water Main Extensions  
Twin Harbor Sewer Project

#### **A. Miscellaneous Water Main Extensions:**

The water main design is approximately 95% complete, there have been few miscellaneous additions to hydraulic reasons a cost estimate for the project based on bid quantities is attached.

#### **Roads to Be Served:**

Strider Road  
Freeman Rd.  
Substation Road  
Hallyburton Road.  
Plantation Circle  
Shoe Factory Road  
Talc Mine Road  
Deberry Road  
Beane Road  
Dusty Level Road  
Haywood Country Road  
Dover Church Road  
Correll Road  
Shiloh Church Road (Dast Dr. is a private road off of Shiloh Ch. Rd.)  
Dover Road  
Small Road  
Steed Road  
Thickety Creek Road  
Odom Rd.

#### **Roads Not Served from Original List**

Green Lane (in the Star Area)  
Martin Lane (Private Road)  
Dast Drive (Private Rd)  
Hwy 731, Dry Creek and Tabernacle Ch Rd

**Pending Water Mains**

1. Eight McCaskill Road customers can be served in approximately 0.6 of a mile.
2. Greentop Rd, Mabe Rd, Okeweemee Star Rd near the Town of Star there are approximately 31 sign-ups that can be served in approximately 2 miles.

**Project Costs:**

Based on the attached estimates the Total Project Cost of the water mains including Construction, Engineering, Inspection and Contingencies is approximately \$1,349,364.50. As mentioned above there are some pending water mains that I would request some direction from the Board of Commissioners.

Mr. Carpenter asked the board if they wanted to include the pending projects in the current construction or wait. Commissioner Morris asked how much the pending projects would cost? Mr. Carpenter said around \$100,000.

Commissioner Bostic was concerned that the Dry Creek area was told they would get water and it was printed in the paper and now they are not included. Mr. Bostic said he would like to see the line extended down Hwy 731 to get to Dry Creek.

Mr. Carpenter said that was his fault it was included to start with. He said he should not have included it because there were no current water lines close to Dry Creek and the area is very dense.

Commissioner Morris asked about the Hwy. 134 petition when they could be included? Mr. Carpenter said Hwy. 134 is in the same situation as Dry Creek.

Commissioner Knight asked if there was any grant money available for out of the way places? Mr. Carpenter said there are grants available through the Rural Center, however the county has an outstanding grant for the Clear Well at the water plant. Mr. Carpenter said BB&T also has attractive rates. Chairman Maness said we can't afford to do that.

Commissioner Bostic asked about the money left in reserve. Commissioner Morris said we left \$1 million in the account. Commissioner Bostic said that is a good cushion.

Commissioner Knight said he feels the board should stick with the original list. He asked what the reason was for considering some way down on the list? Mr. Carpenter said on McCaskill Road if water was run on the entire road we would pick up but 11 out of 36 customers, if water was run part of the way (.6 miles) we could pick up 8 customers. Commissioner Morris said there are chicken houses on this road and the owners have had problems with water.

Chairman Maness asked if the pending roads were good ones to go with. Mr. Carpenter said by standards yes.

Commissioner Knight didn't like moving the pending roads above others on the list.

Chairman Maness asked the board if they wanted to approve these pending lines? Commissioner Knight said he doesn't agree with it. Commissioner Morris said she would like to go ahead and run these lines. Commissioner Bostic said the last time we voted, we voted to include Dry Creek and that list should stand.

Mr. Matthews said that road was added erroneously.

Chairman Maness said he voted for Dry Creek, but didn't know the line would have to be extended 7 miles.

Commissioner Bostic said he turned the petition in and it had a lot of names and the ones on the petition that have bad water are on 731.

Chairman Maness said he wants Dry Creek to have water.

Mr. Carpenter said it is my mistake it was included and it should not have been. Mr. Carpenter asked if he could take the list to be served and see where we stand and then come back?

Commissioner Morris said the chicken houses on McCaskill Road need the water. Commissioner Bostic said I don't want to put chickens before people.

The board agreed to go with the list to be served and see where they stand.

#### **B. Twin Harbor Sewer Project:**

The Twin Harbor Sewer Project is approximately 95% complete. We were ready to make the lake crossing when we were informed by Progress Energy that contact with additional regulatory agencies would be required. This notice was not given to us until February 21, 2003. We have made contact with the agencies and have received positive comments back from one of those agencies today. I would expect that we will have comments back from these agencies now later than one month from now. The agencies understand our situation and have agreed to try and expedite the review. Some key issues that need to be resolved are as follows:

- 1 . Formal execution of a contract with the Town of Mt. Gilead for the treatment of the bulk sewer.
2. Formal execution of a contract with the three developers for the transfer of ownership.
3. Provisions to Operate and Maintain the Sewer System.
4. Establishment of a Rate to the new Customers (can't really be done until the Mt. Gilead contract is finalized)

All of the above issues are being addressed we just need to finalize each prior to beginning operation of the system.

#### **Discussion of Smallpox Vaccination Policy**

Mr. Matthews said Attorney Hollers only recommended one change to the last sentence in paragraph five. *The recommended policy is as follows:*

#### **AGREEMENT**

**AGREEMENT**, dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2003 by and between Montgomery County (hereinafter "County") and \_\_\_\_\_ (hereinafter "Employee").

**WHEREAS**, County requires an unspecified number of individual employees to be (i) trained in the proper methods for giving smallpox inoculations, or (ii) prepared to go into the community to investigate real or potential threats to public safety as a result of an act of terrorism, all of which employees must also volunteer to receive the smallpox inoculation themselves, as a prerequisite part of their training and certification; and

**WHEREAS**, receiving the smallpox inoculation carries with it a quantifiable risk of adverse side effects, which could result in short or long term illness, and perhaps the necessity of missing time from normal employment duties; and

**WHEREAS**, Employee hereby volunteers to be inoculated against the smallpox virus, and further agrees to undergo whatever training is necessary to enable Employee to become qualified and/or certified to give smallpox inoculations to others, or to conduct investigations, in the event of an actual or threatened public emergency wherein the public safety is threatened and wider scale inoculations become necessary.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, based upon the mutual covenants and agreements herein contained, the parties agree as follows:

- I. Employee will ***voluntarily*** receive a smallpox inoculation, free of charge to Employee, and will successfully participate in whatever training is deemed appropriate by County, to enable County to respond to a public emergency, including a bio-terrorist attack, in conformance with federal and state standards.
2. When said training is successfully completed, if Employee is one of those who will be asked to inoculate others, Employee ***must be*** qualified to give smallpox inoculations to other medical personnel, emergency first responders, and other individuals who could reasonably be expected to be among the first to respond to such a public emergency.
3. There is some statistical risk that Employee will suffer a negative physical reaction to being inoculated. Such reaction could result in time lost from work, or medical expense being incurred.
4. County agrees to indemnify and hold Employee harmless from and against the consequences of any negative reaction to the smallpox inoculation, to wit:
  - a. No time missed from work as a result of the inoculation will be charged against Employee as annual leave, Family Medical leave or sick leave.
  - b. Any medical expense incurred by Employee as a result of the inoculation will be paid by County. The method of any such payment, or the source of funds expended, will be at the exclusive discretion of County.
5. It is the intention of the parties that no Employee should suffer negative financial consequences as a result of volunteering to undergo the training and being inoculated as contemplated herein. However, it is understood and agreed that the Employee's Estate is not entitled to any type of death benefits or wrongful death benefits from the County other than those afforded by reason of Employee being an Employee of the County.
6. Nothing herein shall constitute a guaranty to Employee of continued employment with County, for any particular period of time, nor in any particular position. Employee will continue to be subject to all policies and procedures applicable to any other employee of the Montgomery County Health Department, including specifically those dealing with job performance and conduct.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the parties have hereunto set their hands on the day and year above first written.

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Participant

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County Manager

Chairman Maness asked Mr. Matthews if we have time to look at this. He said yes. Chairman Maness suggested the board wait on this. Mr. Matthews said only two have volunteered to take the Smallpox Vaccine.

#### **Discussion of Retiree Insurance Policy**

At a previous work session Mr. Matthews said there is an employee at the Health Department that is retiring in May. She has been a county employee for 31 years total. She has only been part-time for the last five years. Mr. Matthews said the personnel policy states continuous service for at least 12 years. It is unclear if this is full time only or if it includes part-time as well.

Mr. Matthews said he talked with Attorney Hollers regarding the issue of retiree insurance in the personnel policy. The question was does a part-time employee qualify for county paid insurance after retirement. Mr. Hollers' response was it goes back to the previous paragraph regarding the number of years paid into the retirement system.

Mr. Matthews said this does need to be clarified in the policy.

#### **County Manager's Report**

*Mr. Matthews presented the following:*

- Most of the department budget requests are in (DSS waiting on Federal and State totals as well as the Public Schools). The departments are requesting a 2% salary increase. He also gave a suggested budget calendar. Chairman Maness told the board if there was a conflict on these dates to contact Mr. Matthews.
- Martha Lefler sent a letter requesting the county pay for the permit (\$1100) and the bore under the railroad (\$3300) for her and she would repay this money monthly. Mr. Matthews explained that Mrs. Lefler previously didn't want to do this, however has changed her mind if the board would agree to this. Commissioner Morris said they are on a fixed income. Commissioner Maness asked if this had come up before? Mr. Matthews said one other time. Laura Morton said another customer, Emma Sheffield, had the same problem. She had a shallow well and the well went dry, but in order to get to the county water, she would have to go under the railroad. The county talked to the railroad for Mrs. Sheffield, but didn't help her pay. At the time the railroad was very cooperative. Mr. Matthews explained that there has been a change in management. Commissioner Knight said this is probably an attempt to deter people from going under the railroad. Commissioner Corbett said it is his understanding that their son in law has agreed to run the line. Commissioner Knight said in most places customers are responsible for running the line to the meter. Mr. Matthews said that is what we have to decide. Chairman Maness said what we do for one we need to do for all. The board



decided to do an investigation on how many houses are on wells that are across the railroad that this policy would affect.

- Mr. Matthews said he received a letter from the Youth Basketball League thanking the board for the money for referees, etc. They also invited the board to the tournament on Saturday, March 8.

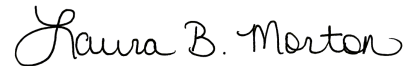
**Items Carried Forward to Regular Session**

- Register of Deeds Equipment Upgrade

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.



William D. Maness, Chairman  
Board



Laura B. Morton, Clerk to the